

William G. Murphy
Kimberly Murphy
42 Dockerel Rd
Tolland, CT

To the Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen of the Judiciary Committee:

With all due respect, I would like to strongly oppose the implementation of SB1094, AN ACT BANNING LARGE CAPACITY AMMUNITION MAGAZINES. The contention that these large capacity magazines are only used for criminal purposes is both wrong and unsupported.

Does this proposal include persons transiting the State, with personal property destined for another State in which they are legal? How will this be enforced, dogs? What of the countless off duty and retired police officers, credentialed and permitted by Congress to carry nation wide. Will they be subject to Felony convictions?

The implementation and enforcement of this proposal would cost the State monies it does not have, at a time when unnecessary expenses should be curtailed. It will also subject law-abiding citizens to seizure of personal property with an uncompensated financial burden that most cannot afford.

There are a number of competitive shooting events that use high capacity magazines and there is effort locally to bring more of these events to the state. This is sportsmen, spending money in the state and helping the local economy. It may be a small amount of money, but it is revenue the state can ill afford to lose.

In truth, the only individuals fearful of this legislation are the countless Connecticut Pistol-Permit holder and the businesses they support whom this law will unduly affect. Does anyone truly believe that someone intent on killing as many innocent people as possible, will be deterred by the specter of the additional crime of using a high capacity magazine? Those of us who have permits and use these firearms for legal target shooting and competitions also have homes and jobs and futures that would be destroyed by any criminal conviction.

I am a certified NRA Pistol, Rifle and Shotgun instructor and both my wife and I are active in all three shooting disciplines. The shooting community is frustrated by those unfamiliar with the sport seeking to increase public safety through laws that seem to only penalize the law abiding. This law would be similar to a limit on the hard drive space of a computer as a means of controlling criminal activity.

This law is ill advised, unlikely to increase public safety, costly for both the state and sportsman, impossible to enforce affectively, a deterrent to business and the growth of the shooting sports.

It is difficult for either my wife or me to express how bad we feel this proposal is for the state or its citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
William & Kimberly Murphy